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India and Belgium Launch Strategic Dialogue to Deepen Bilateral Relations

- India and Belgium have launched the first India–Belgium Strategic Dialogue in Brussels, marking a significant step towards strengthening bilateral ties through a structured and comprehensive partnership.
- The inaugural dialogue was co-chaired by External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar and Belgium's Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Affairs and Development Cooperation, Maxime Prévot. Both countries agreed to expand cooperation in trade and investment, green energy transition, innovation and technology, connectivity, defence, security, regional and global issues, and people-to-people exchanges.
- The Strategic Dialogue will be supported by regular high-level engagements to ensure sustained political momentum.

About India–Belgium Relations:

- Diplomatic relations were established in 1947.
- Belgium is among India's important trading partners in the European Union.
- Belgium is a global hub for the diamond trade, with Antwerp serving as one of the world's largest diamond trading centres.

India and Belgium cooperate in:

- Trade and investment.
- Clean energy.
- Pharmaceuticals.

Q. Which city hosted the inaugural India–Belgium Strategic Dialogue aimed at strengthening bilateral cooperation across trade, defence, innovation, and green energy? **Brussels, Belgium.**



Ministry of Railways Launches New IRCTC Beta Website for Easier Train Ticket Booking

- The Ministry of Railways has launched a new beta version of the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) website to make online train ticket booking faster, simpler, and more user-friendly.
- The revamped portal introduces a cleaner interface with no unnecessary CAPTCHAs, pop-ups, or flashing graphics, along with improved seat availability display across all classes, a faster checkout process, and saved passenger details for repeat bookings.
- The beta version is available for public use, and passengers have been invited to provide feedback before the full rollout. The existing IRCTC website will continue to operate alongside the beta version during the testing phase.

Key Features of the New Beta Website:

- Cleaner and distraction-free user interface.
- Removal of unnecessary CAPTCHAs, pop-ups, and flashing graphics.
- Seat availability visible across all travel classes on a single screen.
- Faster checkout with fewer booking steps.
- Passenger details saved for quicker repeat bookings.
- Public feedback mechanism to improve future versions.

Q. Which organisation launched the new beta website in 2026 to simplify online train ticket booking and improve user experience?
Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC).



India and Poland Decide to Strengthen Cooperation in MSME Sector

- India and Poland have agreed to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector during high-level bilateral talks held in New Delhi.
- The meeting was attended by a Polish delegation led by Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Technology Michał Baranowski, while the Indian side was led by MSME Secretary Bharat Khera. Both countries discussed expanding collaboration in digital transformation, innovation, technology adoption, sustainable manufacturing, startup ecosystems, and market access to make MSMEs globally competitive.

India's MSME Sector:

- India has over 8.6 crore (86 million) registered MSMEs.
- The sector contributes around 30% of India's GDP.
- MSMEs account for nearly 45% of India's exports.
- The sector provides employment to approximately 33 crore (330 million) people, making it one of the country's largest employment generators.

Key Government Initiatives for MSMEs:

- Udyam Registration Portal – Online registration platform for MSMEs.
- Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) – Provides collateral-free credit support.

Q. Which European country agreed with India in July 2026 to strengthen cooperation in the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector through digital transformation, innovation, and sustainable manufacturing? **Poland.**



India's First Hydrogen-Powered Train to be Flagged Off Between Jind and Sonipat in Haryana

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag off India's first hydrogen-powered train between Jind and Sonipat in Haryana, marking a major milestone in India's transition towards green and sustainable rail transportation.

Objectives:

- Promote clean and sustainable transportation.
- Reduce dependence on diesel-powered trains.
- Lower greenhouse gas emissions from the railway sector.
- Support India's National Green Hydrogen Mission.
- Advance the vision of Net Zero Carbon Emissions in Indian Railways.

About Hydrogen Fuel Cell Trains:

- Hydrogen fuel-cell trains generate electricity through an electrochemical reaction between hydrogen and oxygen.
- Unlike diesel locomotives, they emit only water vapour and generate minimal noise.
- The electricity produced powers electric traction motors, making hydrogen trains an environmentally friendly alternative for rail transport.

Global Context:

- Germany became the first country to introduce commercially operating hydrogen-powered passenger trains in 2018, using Alstom's Coradia iLint trains. Hydrogen trains are increasingly viewed as a sustainable alternative to diesel trains, particularly on non-electrified railway routes.

Q. On which railway route will India's first hydrogen-powered train operate after its launch in 2026? **Jind–Sonipat route in Haryana.**



Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission Signs MoU with UP Promote Pharma Council to Strengthen Pharma Quality and Innovation

- The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Uttar Pradesh Promote Pharma Council (UPPPC) to strengthen quality standards, regulatory compliance, innovation, and capacity building in the pharmaceutical and medical device sectors.
- The MoU was signed during the YEIDA MedTech Investors Meet & Site Visit 2026, held at the India Expo Mart, Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh.
- The partnership aims to enhance patient safety, support MSMEs, promote digital reporting systems, and position Uttar Pradesh as a leading pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturing hub.

About the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC):

- An autonomous institution under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW).
- Established: 1956.
- Headquarters: Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.
- Chairman: P. K. Pradhan, Secretary
- Responsible for publishing the Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP), which prescribes official quality standards for medicines manufactured, marketed, and consumed in India.

Q. Which autonomous institution under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare signed an MoU with the Uttar Pradesh Promote Pharma Council (UPPPC) in July 2026 to strengthen quality standards and regulatory excellence in the pharmaceutical sector?
Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC).



Indian Women Boxers Win Three Gold Medals at Asian U-19 & U-23 Boxing Championships 2026

- Indian women boxers delivered an outstanding performance at the Asian Under-19 & Under-23 Boxing Championships 2026 held in Jakarta, Indonesia, winning three gold medals, 10 silver medals, and four bronze medals.
- The gold medals were won by Chandrika Pujari (U-19, 51 kg), Prachi (U-19, 57 kg), and Nisha (U-23, 54 kg). The impressive performance highlights India's growing strength in women's boxing at the continental level.

India's Medal Tally (Women's Events):

- Gold: 3
- Silver: 10
- Bronze: 4

Additional Key Facts:

- Boxing has been part of the Olympic Games since 1904 (except the 1912 Stockholm Olympics).
- Women's boxing was introduced at the London Olympics 2012.
- Bouts are contested in different weight categories under the 10-point must scoring system.
- India has produced several world-class women boxers, including Mary Kom, Nikhat Zareen, Lovlina Borgohain, and Nitu Ghanghas.
- India has consistently emerged as one of Asia's leading nations in women's boxing at junior, youth, and senior levels.

Q. Which three Indian women won gold medals at the 2026 Asian Under-19 & Under-23 Boxing Championships held in Jakarta?
Chandrika Pujari, Prachi, and Nisha.

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Union Cabinet Approves ₹62,500 Crore Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS)

- The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS) with a budgetary outlay of ₹62,500 crore.
- The scheme will be implemented for five years (FY 2026–27 to FY 2030–31) to strengthen India's position as a global mobile phone manufacturing hub by increasing production, deepening domestic value addition, strengthening supply chains, boosting exports, and promoting Indian mobile phone brands.

Key Features of the Scheme:

- Provides performance-linked incentives on eligible sales of mobile phones manufactured in India.
- Incentive Rate: 2.25% to 5% on eligible sales.
- Additional incentive of up to 1.5% for greater domestic sourcing of key components and sub-assemblies.
- An additional 3% incentive is provided to promote Indian brands undertaking design and R&D activities.
- Focuses on moving India from assembly-led manufacturing to design-led manufacturing.

Expected Outcomes:

- Scale up India's mobile phone production and exports.
- Increase domestic value addition in electronics manufacturing.
- Strengthen India's position in global value chains.

Q. Which scheme with a budgetary outlay of ₹62,500 crore was approved by the Union Cabinet in July 2026 to strengthen India's mobile phone manufacturing ecosystem? **Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS).**

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Delhi Unveils 'Mayur' Mascot for 22nd Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships 2026

- Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta unveiled "Mayur", the official mascot of the 22nd Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships 2026, to be held at the Thyagaraj Stadium, New Delh.
- Inspired by India's national bird, the Peacock (Mayur), the mascot symbolizes confidence, determination, sportsmanship, cultural heritage, and national pride. T
- he championship will witness the participation of athletes and officials from over 25 Commonwealth countries, showcasing Delhi as an emerging international sporting destination.

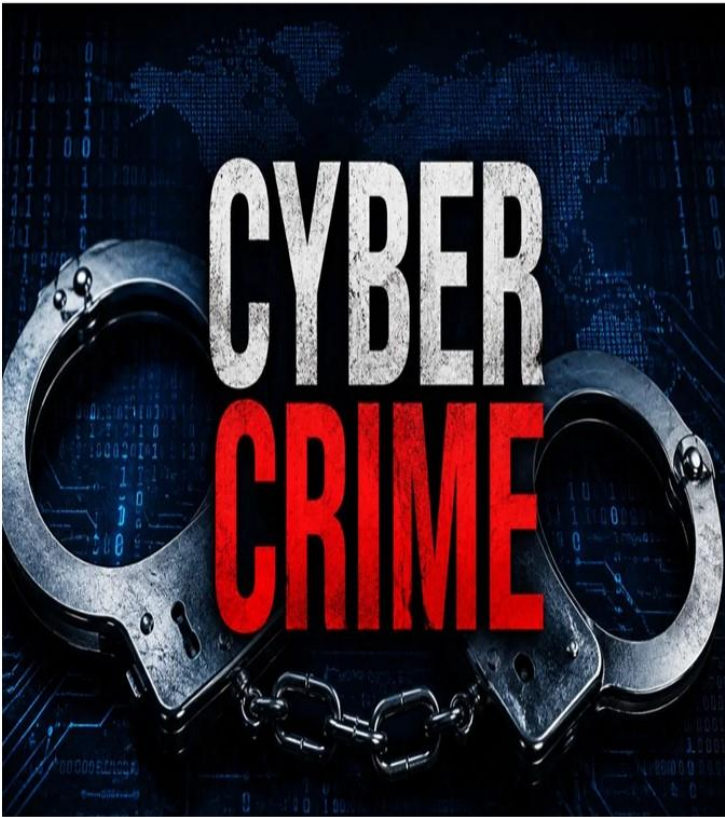
About Table Tennis:

- International Governing Body: International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF).
- ITTF: President: Petra Söring
- ITTF: Founded: 1926.
- ITTF Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Table Tennis became an Olympic sport at the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

Major international competitions include:

- Olympic Games
- World Table Tennis Championships
- Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships
- Asian Table Tennis Championships

Q. What is the name of the official mascot unveiled for the 22nd Commonwealth Table Tennis Championships 2026 to be held in New Delhi? **Mayur.**



Uttar Pradesh Records Highest Cyber Fraud Complaints in India

- Uttar Pradesh has recorded the highest number of cyber fraud complaints in India, according to data from the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCRP) managed by the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- The surge reflects the rapid increase in online financial frauds, phishing, investment scams, digital arrest scams, fake job offers, UPI frauds, and impersonation-related cyber crimes across the country.
- The data highlights the growing need for stronger cyber awareness, prompt reporting, and improved cyber policing.

Common Types of Cyber Frauds:

- UPI and digital payment frauds.
- Phishing and fake banking calls.
- Digital arrest scams.
- Investment and cryptocurrency scams.
- Online job and part-time work scams.
- OTP and SIM swap frauds.
- Identity theft and social media impersonation.
- Online shopping and QR code scams.

Q. Which state recorded the highest number of cyber fraud complaints in India according to the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (NCRP)? **Uttar Pradesh.**



India Pushes for Renegotiation of the Indus Waters Treaty to Address New Challenges

- India has reiterated the need to renegotiate the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), 1960, citing fundamental changes in circumstances, including climate change, demographic growth, increasing water requirements, clean energy needs, and evolving security concerns.
- India has argued that the treaty, negotiated over six decades ago, does not adequately address present-day realities and has sought a review and modification of its provisions to ensure equitable and sustainable utilisation of the Indus River system.
- The issue has gained renewed attention after India kept the treaty in abeyance following the 2025 Pahalgam terrorist attack and has continued to press for renegotiation.

Why India Wants Renegotiation:

- Climate change has altered rainfall patterns and river flows.
- Growing population has increased demand for drinking water, irrigation, and hydropower.
- Need for improved water storage and infrastructure development.
- Requirement to maximise clean energy generation through hydropower.
- National security concerns following cross-border terrorism.
- Need to modernise a treaty negotiated under vastly different circumstances in 1960.

Q. Which international treaty, signed in 1960 with World Bank mediation, governs the sharing of the waters of the Indus River system between India and Pakistan? **Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), 1960.**

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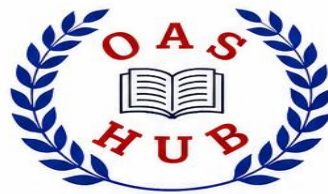
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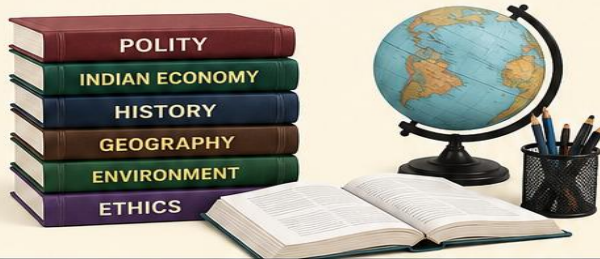
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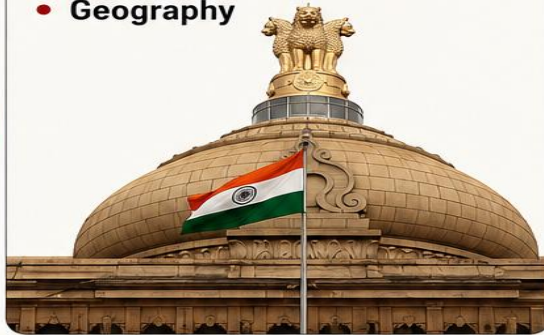
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